



4-H EVENT SCHOLARSIPS AVAILABLE

Don't forget that when 4-H'ers sign up for a 4-H event where registration fees are required, 4-H'ers can receive event scholarships. The amount varies throughout the Southwind District. Forms are online and must be completed two weeks prior to the event. Forms can be found [here](#).

DISTRICT 4-H DAY

District 4-H Day will be held on February 7, 2026, from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Everyone will need to check in by 11:30 p.m. at Marmaton Valley School, Moran. If you have any questions about the guidelines or rules, please refer [here](#).

REGIONAL 4-H DAY

4-H'ers receiving a Top Blue placing at District 4-H Day will be invited to attend Regionals February 28, 2026, at Neosho County Community College in Chanute. All eligible participants will receive an email.

COMMUNICATION RESOURCES AND OPPORTUNITY

4-H members age 9 and older participating in District 4-H Day receiving a purple ribbon can take their project talks, demonstrations, and illustrated talks to the Kansas State Fair. Poetry, and Public Speaking can come to the State Fair, however regardless of the topic used locally, all contestants at the State Fair will use the same topic, "What 4-H Means to Me". Information will be in the Kansas State Fair Book. There are some great resources for project talks, illustrated talks, demonstrations, and public speaking [here](#).



PROJECT ENROLLMENT ADD/DROP DATE

Southwind Extension District policy is 4-H members have till May 1, 2026, to add or drop projects from their 4-H enrollment. **NO EXCEPTIONS.** This will affect which entries you can enter at the County fair.

PROGRAM FEE COVERAGE FOR 2026/2027

Program Fee Sponsorship for 2026. There are three major requirements to be eligible: Attend a minimum of 6 club meetings. Submit a complete MIG (Member in Good Standing) Book. Submit at least one PRR (Project Record Report).

PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS

Getting to Know Your Camera

Understand your camera's basic functions, settings, and controls to take more intentional photos.

Basic Editing

Learn simple edits to improve lighting, color, and overall image quality.

Elements & Components

Explore composition, lighting, and visual elements that strengthen photos.

Photos with a Phone

Use your smartphone to capture high-quality, creative images wherever you are.

- March 21st in Allen County, 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Lola Recreation Department
- March 28th in Bourbon County, 9:00 a.m. to noon at Papa Don's Pizza in Fort Scott
- April 18th in Woodson County, 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Yates Center Community building
- May 2nd in Neosho County, 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Fire Escape Coffeehouse in Chanute

2026 4-H HORSE PANORAMA

The 4-H Horse Panorama is scheduled for February 21-22, 2026, at Rock Springs. Horse members are encouraged to register to participate in Horse Bowl, Hippology, Presentations and more. Find registration information [here](#).

JUNIOR PRODUCER DAYS 2026

Junior Beef Producer Day – March 7, 2026

The deadline to register is February 13. Cost is \$20/person by the deadline, or \$30 after. Only those registered by February 13 will receive a T-shirt.

Junior Sheep Producer Day – April 11, 2026

Registration is due March 20. The cost is \$20/person and T-shirts are only guaranteed for those who sign up by the deadline. Late registrations will be \$30/person. All youth, parents, leaders, extension agents, and ag teachers are invited to participate in these one-day, family educational experiences. There will also be an optional instructor-led YQCA training at the conclusion of the program for both events. Watch the website [here](#) for details!

NATIONAL 4-H COUNCIL YOUTH IN ACTION APPLICATIONS OPEN

The 4-H Youth in Action (YIA) program celebrates young people who are creating real change in their communities. This national program amplifies the stories and leadership of 4-H youth, showcasing how 4-H has shaped their lives and equipped them to impact others. To learn more about this opportunity, please visit [here](#).

INSECT HEADS UP!

We are learning about what is in and on an insect head. February 14, at the SE Kansas Entomology project meeting at 1:00 p.m. in the Allen County Extension Office. We will be pinning insect specimens so bring your pinning boards, supplies and 3 or 4 insects to pin. If you need to practice a talk or demonstration for Club Day on any project, we would be glad to listen to your presentation. Questions, Call Vicky (620)804-9170.

STEM AND ENTOMOLOGY PROJECT MEETINGS

S.T.E.M. meetings 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Entomology meetings 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. at the Allen County Extension Office.

February 14, 2026

March 14, 2026

April 11, 2026

May 02, 2026

June 06, 2026

July 11, 2026

August 08, 2026

September 19, 2026

October 10, 2026

Insect Spectacular - June 19 & 20, 2026 in Yates Center. S.T.E.M. questions, call Heather Mentzer 785-410-6081 or e-mail

mentzerfarms@gmail.com. Entomology questions call Vicky Wallace 620-804-9170 or email her at vicky.wallace55@gmail.com.

ANNUAL INSECT-THEMED ART CONTEST

The K-State Extension Pesticide Safety and IPM Program is hosting its annual insect-themed art contest, open to all ages and skill levels in Kansas! Theme is “Metamorphosis Magic.” The goal is to explore insects that undergo complete and incomplete metamorphosis, then create artwork that fits the contest theme. Artwork may include drawings, paintings, digital art, or a 3-D piece such as sculpture, stained glass, or other creative media. Awards will be given for 1st – 3rd place in each of the following age categories:

- Kindergarten – 2nd grade
- 3rd grade – 5th grade
- 6th grade – 8th grade
- High school
- Adult



2026 T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST

Calling all creative 4-Hers! Try your hand at creating a design to go on the 2026 Insect Spectacular T-shirts. Theme: Lepidoptera (Butterflies, Skippers, and/or Moths) of Kansas. Contest Dates: February 1 to March 06, 2026. Design must be submitted to Vicky Wallace, 2447 40th Road, Humboldt, Kansas 66748. by midnight March 06, 2026. Email Vicky at vicky.wallace55@gmail.com.

Design Size: Design must fit on an 8 ½" X 11" sheet of paper. **Colors:** Maximum three colors plus one color for T-Shirt. **Wording:** Must include "Insect Spectacular 2026" **Description:** You are creating the design for the graphic that will be on the T-shirt. This is the State 4-H Entomology Workshop held each summer. You can use graphics of true Lepidoptera or create your own artful images. No copy righted clip art, photos or graphics may be used. Remember to use only Lepidoptera found in Kansas. **Prize:** Winner will receive a \$20 gift card to Sonic. **Leadership:** This would be a great addition to your 4-H Record Book, especially for the Visual Arts, Entomology, and Leadership projects. Information that must be on the back of your entry: 4-Hers Name, 4-H Age, County/District, Mailing address, Phone number, first and second choice of T-shirt color, Email (if you have one) Questions: Vicky Wallace at vicky.wallace55@gmail.com or Phone: (620)804-9170 Winning design will be selected by the State 4-H Entomology committee. Anyone submitting a design for competition may not vote on the design selection. Entries must be received or postmarked before April 15, 2026. Full contest rules and details are available here.

KANSAS 4-H DAY WITH K-STATE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Join other 4-H families and supporters from across Kansas to cheer on the K-State Women's Basketball team on Sunday, March 1, 2026, at 1:00pm in the game against Iowa State. For \$28, each attendee will receive a ticket to the game, an awesome game day T-shirt, and a \$10 meal voucher to use at the main concessions. A ticket/voucher option with no T-shirt is available for \$18. Register [here](#) by February 8th.

2026 YQCA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The national youth livestock quality assurance program, Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA), is continuing the scholarship program they initiated in 2025. Applications are now open and will close on February 15. High school seniors, through college students who are 21 years of age, are encouraged to apply. Last year, Kansas had two scholarship recipients! For more information, visit the YQCA program website: [here](#).

ALLEN COUNTY NEWS

ALLEN COUNTY FAIR

Allen County Fair is scheduled for July 23-26, 2026.

ALLEN COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL MEETING

Allen County 4-H Council meeting, Thursday, February 26th at 7:00 p.m., Allen County Extension Office.

MARKET BEEF WEIGH-IN

March 1, 2026, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Allen County Fairgrounds. Tags will be \$4.00 a piece, cash or check only.

OTHER LIVESTOCK TAGGING & WEIGHING

Bucket Calves, Meat Goats, Sheep and Swine. Monday, April 20, from 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the Allen County Fairgrounds

GWEN E. WILSON 4-H SCHOLARSHIP

Gwen E. Wilson 4-H Scholarship is to be awarded to an Allen County 4-H member, annually. This scholarship must be used at Kansas State University for work leading to a degree of the student's own choice. The scholarship is worth \$500.00. No winner may receive it more than once and it is not renewable. Specific details and the application can be found [here](#).



MILES KESSINGER SCHOLARSHIP

Miles Kessinger Scholarship awarded for the purpose of attending Allen Community College. This scholarship is to be awarded annually to an Allen County 4-H member and/or a Woodson County 4-H member who is a graduating senior. Those eligible to apply for this scholarship must have been a 4-H member at least three years, be of good moral character and have financial need. This scholarship is \$500.00 and is payable to the recipient. The scholarship winner must use this award in the school year selected, otherwise he/she will be required to re-apply. Completed applications are to be mailed or brought to Allen Community College, Financial Aid Office, 1801 N. Cottonwood, Iola, KS 66749 before April 1. Specific details and application can be found [here](#).

BOURBON COUNTY NEWS

BOURBON COUNTY FAIR

Bourbon County Fair is scheduled for July 11-18, 2026. **Theme:** Take A Dive into the Bourbon County Fair.

BOURBON COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL MEETING

Bourbon County 4-H Council meeting March 25th at 6:30 p.m. at Papa Dons Pizza.

FAMILY & COMMUNITY EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

FCE Council is offering a \$200.00 scholarship to a high school senior or college student who is a Bourbon County resident and will be attending any two-or-four-year college or university in Kansas. All students are welcome to apply; preference will be given to a student who plans to major in Family and Consumer Sciences or a related field. Applications and references must be post marked by Friday, February 13, 2026. Application is available [here](#).

BEEF TAGGING

Sunday, March 8, 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Thursday, March 12, 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Location: Trent Johnson Facility, 1282 135th Redfield, Kansas.

LIVESTOCK INFORMATION

Members may tag as many animals as they wish but after the 2 allowed tags per specie members will be charged \$4.00 per tag. Please make correct change or write a check to Livestock Account.

NEOSHO COUNTY NEWS

NEOSHO COUNTY FAIR

Neosho County Fair is scheduled for July 23-27, 2026. The theme of the Neosho County Fair is "Surf in the USA".

NEOSHO COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL MEETING

Neosho 4-H Council will meet on March 1st at 5:30 p.m. at the Neosho Valley Event Center

COUNTYWIDE RABBIT & DOG MEETINGS

Countywide Rabbit project meeting will be held on Sunday, March 1 at 1:00 p.m. with a Countrywide Dog project meeting will be held Sunday, March 1 at 2:00 p.m. At the Neosho fairgrounds, no animals, just kids.

BEEF TAGGING

Beef Tagging/Weigh-in at the Neosho County Fairgrounds Sunday, March 9, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. All trailers must enter the South gate, and the line will form there. Once finished, trailers will exit out the East or West gate. Tags cost \$4.00 each. Beef animals that need to be tagged are market beef and feeder beef. Questions contact Kendal at 620-625-8620.

WOODSON COUNTY NEWS

WOODSON COUNTY FAIR

Woodson County Fair is scheduled for July 17-20, 2026. The theme for the Woodson County Fair is "No time like Fair Time".

WOODSON COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL MEETING

Woodson 4-H Council's next meeting is on March 4th at 7:00 p.m. at the Extension Office.

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Miles Kessinger Scholarship is awarded for the purpose of attending Allen Community College. This scholarship is to be awarded annually to an Allen County 4-H member and/or a Woodson County 4-H member who is a graduating senior. Those eligible to apply for this scholarship must have been a 4-H member for at least three years, be of good moral character and have financial need. This scholarship is worth \$500.00 and is payable to the recipient. The scholarship winner must use this award in the school year selected, otherwise he/she will be required to re-apply. Completed applications are to be mailed or brought to Allen Community College, Financial Aid Office, 1801 N. Cottonwood, Iola, KS 66749 on or before April 1. Specific details and the application can be found [here](#).

